

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for distributing multimedia content, comprising the steps of:
 defining a multimedia source for supplying streaming multimedia data;
 defining a destination for receiving said streaming multimedia data;
 providing a wireless controller communicatively coupled to each of said
 5 multimedia source and said destination, said wireless controller being adapted to
 perform the steps of:
 communicating with said multimedia source to generate a first display
 of a plurality of multimedia works available from said multimedia source;
 facilitating a selection of at least one multimedia work from said first
 10 display of said plurality of multimedia works; and
 upon said selection being made by a user, commanding said
 multimedia source to send said at least one multimedia work as said streaming
 multimedia data to said destination.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said multimedia source is a server
 communicatively coupled to a wireless interface, said wireless controller
 communicating with said server via said wireless interface.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein said multimedia source is a service
 provider communicatively coupled via a network to a server, said server being
 communicatively coupled to a wireless interface, said wireless controller
 communicating with said service provider via said wireless interface.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said multimedia source is said wireless
 controller, said wireless controller including a media memory for storing multimedia
 content.
5. The method of claim 1, said wireless controller further performing the step
 of preparing said destination to receive said streaming multimedia data from said
 multimedia source.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said step of preparing comprises said wireless controller identifying said multimedia source to said destination.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination comprises a multimedia receiver communicatively coupled to a wireless interface.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said multimedia receiver comprises at least one of an audio system and a video system.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination comprises a server communicatively coupled to a wireless interface, said wireless controller communicating with said server via said wireless interface.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein said destination comprises said wireless controller.

11. The method of claim 1, said wireless controller further performing the steps of:

identifying a plurality of multimedia source devices available as said multimedia source for supplying said streaming multimedia data;

5 generating a second display of said plurality of multimedia source devices;
and

facilitating a selection of a first multimedia source device from said plurality of multimedia source devices as said multimedia source for supplying said streaming multimedia data.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein upon said user selecting said first multimedia source device as said multimedia source, generating said first display of said plurality of multimedia works available from said first multimedia source device.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein said plurality of multimedia source devices includes at least one of a server, a service provider coupled to said server via a network, and said wireless controller.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein said server is communicatively coupled to a first wireless interface, said service provider is communicatively coupled via a network to said server, and said wireless controller communicating with said server via said first wireless interface.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein if said user selects one of said server and said service provider as said multimedia source for supplying said streaming multimedia data to said destination, and provided that said destination is not said server, then said wireless controller enabling said destination to receive said streaming multimedia data from said server, and said wireless controller instructing said first wireless interface to establish communications with said destination to transmit said streaming multimedia data to said destination.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said destination is a multimedia receiver communicatively coupled to a second wireless interface, said wireless controller selectively enabling said second wireless interface to receive said streaming multimedia data from said first wireless interface communicatively coupled to said server.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein said destination is said wireless controller.

18. The method of claim 14, wherein if said user selects one of said server and said service provider as said multimedia source, and said destination is said server, then said wireless controller remotely controlling selection of said at least one multimedia work from the selected multimedia source via said first wireless interface.

26. A system for distributing multimedia content, comprising:
a first wireless interface adapted to be communicatively coupled to a server device, said server providing access to streaming multimedia data;

5 a second wireless interface adapted to be communicatively coupled to a multimedia playback unit;

a wireless controller for controlling a communication between said first wireless interface, said second wireless interface and said wireless controller, wherein said first wireless interface, said second wireless interface and said wireless controller communicate via a wireless communication standard;

10 said wireless controller being configured to instruct said server to transmit said streaming multimedia data via said first wireless interface; and

said wireless controller being configured to instruct said second wireless interface to process said streaming multimedia data for playback by said multimedia playback unit.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein said streaming multimedia data is supplied by a service provider coupled to said server via a network.

28. The system of claim 27, wherein said network is the Internet.

29. The system of claim 26, wherein said wireless controller comprises a user interface including a display unit and an input unit.

30. The system of claim 29, wherein said display unit is an LCD display screen.

31. The system of claim 29, wherein said input unit is one of a touch screen and a keypad.

32. The system of claim 29, wherein upon entry of a multimedia source options input at said input unit, said display unit displays a plurality of multimedia source devices from which at least one multimedia work can be selected.

33. The system of claim 32, wherein said plurality of multimedia source devices comprises said server, a service provider available via a network connection to said server, and said wireless controller.

34. The system of claim 32, wherein upon entry of a multimedia source device selected input at said input unit, said display unit displays a plurality of multimedia works available from a first multimedia source device selected from said plurality of multimedia source devices.

35. The system of claim 34, wherein upon entry of a multimedia work selected input at said input unit, selecting a first multimedia work of said plurality of multimedia works.

36. The system of claim 35, wherein upon entry of a destination options input at said input unit, said display unit displays a plurality of multimedia destination devices available as a destination of said first multimedia work.

37. The system of claim 36, wherein said plurality of multimedia destination devices include at least one of said multimedia playback unit, said server and said wireless controller.

38. The system of claim 36, wherein upon entry of a destination selected input at said input unit, selecting a first multimedia destination device from said plurality of multimedia destination devices.

39. The system of claim 38, wherein upon entry of each of said multimedia source options input, said multimedia source device selected input, said multimedia work selected input, said destination options input and said destination selected input, said wireless controller sending a first command to enable said first multimedia destination device to receive said first multimedia work, and sending a second command to instruct said first multimedia source to send said first multimedia work.

40. The system of claim 39, wherein said first multimedia work is sent as said streaming multimedia data.

41. The system of claim 32, wherein upon entry of a destination options input at said input unit, said display unit displays a plurality of multimedia destination devices available.

42. The system of claim 41, wherein upon entry of a destination selected input at said input unit, selecting a first multimedia destination device from said plurality of multimedia destination devices.

43. The system of claim 26, wherein said wireless controller facilitates selection of at least one of a plurality of multimedia works to be transmitted as said streaming multimedia data.

44. The system of claim 26, wherein said streaming multimedia data is supplied by one of a service provider coupled to said server via a network and said server, wherein said wireless controller facilitates selection of one of said service provider and said server as a multimedia source for providing said streaming
5 multimedia data to said multimedia playback unit via said first wireless interface and said second wireless interface.

45. The system of claim 44, wherein said wireless controller sends a first command to enable to said second wireless interface to receive said streaming multimedia data, and sends a second command to instruct said first wireless interface to transmit a first multimedia work as said streaming multimedia data.